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Was Lincoln Wrong?

What more impressive text for both North and South to study to-day, on the ninety-fourth anniversary of ABBA-HAM LINCOLN'S birth, than the passage which Judge ROGER A. PRYOR quotes in his letter printed in another place on this page?

" I, as well as Judge DougLAS," said LINCOLN in one of the speeches of the great debate which gave him national fame and made him President, "am in favor of the race to which I belong having the superiority."

I have no purpose," said ABRAHAM LINCOLN, " to introduce political and social equality between the white and the black races.

"There is a physical difference," said ABRAHAM LINCOLN, afterward the Emancipator, " between the two which, in my judgment, will probably forever forbid their living together upon a footing of perfect equality."

The rights which LINCOLN demanded for the African in America were those of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness-not the ballot, not political equality.

Was he wrong? Do conditions to day, North as well as South, vindicate or refute ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S judgment concerning what was possible and what was inherently impossible in the problem of the betterment of the black man's lot in life?

Are Irish Landlords and Tenants Agreed? .

It begins to look as if the agrarian problem, which lies at the root of Irish discontent, would be solved by an agreement between the landlords and the tenants, which agreement will be embodied in the land purchase bill to be submitted at the coming session of Parliament by Mr. WYNDHAM, Chief Secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant. It is strange that more attention has

not been directed in this country to the remarkable results of the Irish Land Conference held last month in which representatives of the Nationalist party and of a majority of the Irish landlords took part. Lord DUNBAVEN was the chairman of the meeting, and his colleagues included on the side of the landlords Lord MAYO, Col. EVERARD and Cel. POE, while Mr. JOHN REDMOND, Mr. T. W. RUSSELL and Mr. WILLIAM O'BRIEN were the spokesmen of the tenants. The conclusions reached by the conference were unanimously adopted, and, according to a report printed over the signature of Mr. T W. Russell the discussion only once became so animated that a temporary adjournment seemed desiralaid before the Government, and will undoubtedly form the basis of the forthcoming bill, it is worth while to examine them in some detail.

We observe that the preamble unequivocally condemns the dual ownership brought about in 1881 by Mr. GLADSTONE'S legislation. It was unanimously agreed that the conditions of tenure thus effected must be replaced by an "occupying proprietary." The crux of the whole business was, of course, the definition of the terms of purchase. Strange to say, the two parties to the conference treated each other with the utmost generosity. There was not a trace of the spirit exemplified in the saying current not long ago among Irish Nationalists, that the landlords might think themselves lucky if, as the price of their leaving Ireland, they each got a single ticket to Holyhead. On the contrary, instead of making the sale of estates compulsory on terms that landlords would deem inequitable, the landlords are to be bribed to sell.

It is proposed that the landlords shall receive no less than thirty years' purchase of their rentals, as last fixed by the Land Commission Courts, whereas the average price of agricultural land in Ireland at the present time is about twenty years' purchase. That is to say the landlords will receive about 50 per cent, more than they could now get in the open market. The representatives of the tenants also expressed the opinion that the common good of Ireland requires that the present landlord class should continue to reside in the country and identify themselves with its social and industrial life. To that end arrangements were suggested for the re-sale of the mansion houses to the owners, and the conference agreed that they should continue to enjoy all sporting and riparian rights over the lands they sell. It would be strange if any landlord in Ireland should object to a land purchase bill framed in accordance with such recommendations.

No less tempting is the inducement to the tenants to buy. It is proposed that the terminable annuities which the peasant proprietors shall pay in lieu of rent shall be from 15 to 25 per cent. less than the existing "fair rents" last fixed by the Land Commission Courts. But, it may be said, if the landlords are to get more than the market price, and the tenants are to give less than the market price, there will be a difference for someoody to pay. That is unquestionably true. The British taxpayer will have to pay the difference, but there will be compensations. It is believed that he will secure in return for his money a tranquil and contented Ireland. Then, again, upon the disappearance of agrarian controversies, the strength, and, therefore, the cost of the Royal Irish Constabulary could be susceptible of a large reduction. It is also to be borne in mind

that Ireland deserves some equivalent for the greatly increased grant which is to be made from the imperial treasury for elementary schools in England unde the new education law. Finally, the report of a royal commission has shown that Ireland for many years has been grossly overtaxed, and that the exces ought in some way to be repaid.

No doubt the plan proposed by the conference will be denounced by those who assert that, although the Irish peasant proprietors have hitherto repaid with exemplary punctuality the sums advanced for the purchase of their homes this would not be the case if the whole body of existing tenants were converted into landowners. The Government which advances the money, can evict few defaulting mortgagors, but it could not evict a nation. Judge O'CONNOR MORRIS has predicted that, if the plan of a conference should be embodied in law, another PARNELL would arise some day, and proclaim that a foreign and alien Government had no right to an unjust tribute. Those who take this view of the future, however, now form but a very small minority, and they are unlikely to cause the present Ministry to reconsider its purpose to carry out any reasonable scheme of land purchase as to which landlords and tenants are agreed. There may be a risk, but it is a risk which the English people ought to undertake for the sake of the good to be accomplished. Certain it is that since 1893 there has been no session of the British Parliament so fraught with interest for Irish-Americans as will be that which is about to open.

The Old American Stock.

President ELIOT of Harvard University presents statistics of six of its classes which show that after having been more than twenty-five years out of college only 72 per cent. of the members are married, and that the number of their surviving children average only about two to a family. That is, the married pairs have reproduced themselves and no more and 28 per cent. of the classes are unmarried.

The conclusion of President ELIOT is that the " highly educated " part of the American people, so far from increasing the population, is actually not reproducing itself. This " regrettable result " he attributes, in part, to " the late postponement of marriage by young men, which is made " almost unavoidable " by the "protracted education now prescribed for men who enter the learned and scientific professions." A young physician, lawyer, engineer or architect is fortunate if he is in position to marry at 28 or 29 years of age

This condition as respects matrimony and natural increase is not, however, confined to college graduates. It prevails among the native American population of the same general social environment. The great natural increase in the large cities, more especially, is among the foreign-born including those born in this country of foreign parents. Here are the small percentages of native whites born of native parents in the largest

1	cities of the Chion.
	New York21.8
١	Borough of Manhattan16.0
	Chicago
1	Philadelphia
ij	St. Louis
	Boston
1	Beltimore
	Cleveland
	Випаю

It will be seen that in Manhattan only about one-sixth of the population is native of native parentage; and it is diminishing relatively, for not only is immigration steadily and largely increasing the population of foreign parentage, but the natural increase among these foreigners is greater. They come usually from races remarkable for their fecundity, and early marriages are much more frequent among them than among the natives. For example, the Federation of Churches finds that in the Fourteenth Assembly district the percentage of Jew families with nine children is six times the Protestant percentage and that the percentage of Protestant families without children is about twice that of the Jews. The Jews are already approaching in number the native whites of native parentage in New York, and, with their greater natural increase and their rapid increase by immigration, the time is not

distant when they will be ahead. This analysis of the population of the whole of New York in 1900 is suggestive: Native whites of native parentage 737.477 Native, colored Native, foreign parentage...... 1,371,508

This table of the States in which the native whites of native parentage, in

1900 were born will be interesting: New Jersey 27,908 Pennsylvania...... 18,724 New England 37,570 Southern States 28,540 Western States 20.281 Colonies and elsewhere 9,391

It will be seen that of these native inhabitants of New York, nearly six-sevenths were born in the State of New York, and that the greatest number born in any group of States outside came from New England. The largest number from any single State, excep; New Jersey and Pennsylvania were from Massachusetts, 14,142. Of the Western States, the largest number came from Ohio, 7.038; from the Southern, from Virginia, 4,448, with Maryland close behind, 4,437.

The nationalities of the great mass of the foreign population of New York, foreign-born and children of foreign-born parents, it will be seen by this table. are those most remarkable for their

Austria	111,92
Bohemia	29.27
Canada, English	25.97
Canada, French	4,75
Denmark:	A. 80
England	140,48
France	25,90
Germany	700,00

Prospary	\$1,81
Ireland	727,40
Italy	220,34
Norway	17.79
Poland	54,34
Buasia	258,84
Scotland	43,51
Sweden	44,15
Switzerland	13,34
Wales	3,68
All others	58,43

Total 2,643,957 It must also be borne in mind that of the native population, a large part are of foreign blood and that in that part the natural increase is greater than among the rest. The Manhattan borough of New York is becoming almost wholly foreign in its population, including in the foreign those of foreign parentage and those whose grandparents were foreign.

Littlefield the Defender of Constitution.

From the Congressional Record relating the trust-busting proceedings of Saturday last:

" Mr. LITTLEFIELD.-I fully appreciate the prac tical difficulties disclosed in the suggestions made by the distinguished gentleman from Minnesota. have examined the amendment submitted by ilm, and, while I would not undertake to state with absolute positiveness, my judgment is that the section as he has drawn it would not be Consti-

This was the judgment pronounced on a little trust-busting adventure of

Mr. TAWNEY, a Republican. A few minutes later Mr. DE ARMOND of Missouri tried his hand at Constitution dodging:

" Mr. LITTLEIELD .- I have the most profound respect and admiration for the legal ability of my friend from Missouri, and the fact that he pre sents this amendment, which in my judgment to absolutely unconstitutional, does not in the slight. est degree detract from that opinion that I hold of his legal ability."

Turn down DE ARMOND along with TAWNEY, said the resolute upholder of the Constitution. These proposed amendments to my trust-buster are unconstitutional.

This is why we say the very sculpins of Penobecot Bay would have smiled more broadly than ever could they have beheld their esteemed neighbor and favorite statesman in the rôle which he assumed on Saturday.

The Lost Art of Spelling.

Is Boston, a happy home of the New Thought, cold to the New Education? We had supposed that the city of the three hills was full of all the modern educational improvements and whimsies, and that her schools were hung with all the frills and embroideries of the accomplished moderns. Yet the Boston Transcript prints such regrettably old-fashioned and hunkerish stuff as this:

" It is a fact of observation, explain it how you will, that pupils who have taken prizes for scholarship in grammar schools of good standing cannot write a letter free of blunders in spelling; another fact, that pupils in high schools, remarkably well read for their years, are guilty of gross errors in spelling; still another, that pupils who have the wit and brains and style to write a charming letter, misspell abominably: and yet another, that boys seeking entrances to colleges of first rank, able to pass examinations in mathematics and science spell after the fashion of 'witch.' As to the common rules of orthography, the ignorance that there are any worth trying to understand and apply is amaz-

The schools have more important they have no time to waste on foolish rudiments. Why, there are the Chicago schoolchildren who study street cleaning, municipal bookkeeping, municipal reform and various other branches of the world-shadowing tree of sociology. They do condescend to "visualized" reading and spelling, and if you understand the system according to which they learn, you can't help being astounded by their learning. We have seen fathers weep tears of pride and joy while examining the attainments of their progeny. Show Jack the word " dog," for example. He may deny all knowledge of it. Begin to bark; at once he recognizes his old friend " dog." Ask JILL to spell " drum. If she is wise, she refuses. Beat a tattoo and she cries " drum " or " rub-A-dub-dub."

Some imperfectly educated parents complain that their children can't spell or even read tolerably, after years at school. If the complaint be true, what of it? We are to assume that things much more precious than the base mechanical art of spelling are learned by those children. They learn " to think:" they learn " concentration: many of them can model in clay a little and all can eat sandwiches and try to sing. It is our own modest observation that boys and girls like to go to school better than they did in our time. Why? Because they are better and the schools are better; and because so much time is not wasted on the pitiful drudgery of spelling and the three R's. Whatever our children learn or fail to learn, it is a great satisfaction to feel that they are taught in the right manner. If their unfortunate begetters could only have had the advantages of the improved methode!

" Let us start out with the idea," says our preadamite Boston friend, "that children can be trained to spell, if they cannot be taught -spelling can be made a matter of memory, and be acquired as a habit." On the contrary, let us run away from so atrocious and antiquated a belief Do we want to make poll-parrots of our children? There are higher faculties than memory. It is true that some of us did, by means of hard work, drill and damnable iteration learn to spell. We ought to be ashamed instead of being proud of that force of habit and memory. Better not learn at al' than learn by the use of an unscientific method

Besides what is the use of learning to spell? Orthography is fluid, not fixed. Here are the spelling reform associations, busy in forcing us to use new spellings. Every century has its idiosyncrasies of spelling and pronunciation. We have to unlearn in age much of what we had to learn in youth. Even under the old rule of primer and spelling book, some great and good men never could get a high mark in spelling. Everybody knows that the Father of H's Country was an arbitrary speller, so bad a speller

that good old JARED SPARES thought it would be sacrilegious to let posterity see the honest facts. In spite of his early New Hampshire opportunities, the godlike DANIEL spelled to suit himself. As the Emperor SIGISMUND was above grammar, why shouldn't American sovereigns

be above spelling? In time, spelling will be left to colleges of proofreaders. Whatever becomes of it, our children can't be expected to neglect their many nobler and newer studies for that tedious, changing and plebeian

The State Annex to Labor Unionism. A bill has been introduced into the Assembly at Albany providing that during strikes the State Commissioner of Labor may, on the written application of one or more labor unions, appoint

sentative of these labor organizations. That is, the bill would make the Labor Department even more obviously an annex to the labor unionism of the State than it now is. It would put the administration of law in the hands of the very men who, in the case of a violent strike

We referred the other day to the fact

by a union, break the law.

special deputy factory inspectors repre-

that the last quarterly " bulletin " of the Labor Commissioner paid attention only to union labor, utterly ignoring free labor. The annual report of the Bureau of Statistics of his department, since issued, is a large volume of over six hundred pages, yet it presents and discusses only statistics as to " the economic condition of organized labor. The vast majority of the workers in the State of New York are disregarded; and, indirectly, this voluminous report is a plea by "JOHN MCMACKIN, Commis-sioner," for labor unionism.

The report, therefore, is valueless for any one who would study the labor conditions in New York as they actually are, and the money spent on it was wasted Its character, however, indicates that the proposed bill to strengthen still further the domination of the department by the labor unions must be agreeable to a Commissioner who is so manifestly their mouthpiece.

As the heads of the households and censors of morals of Dallas, Texas, the men of that town must be called to account for allowing a breach of good manners to be committed through their womenkind involving the wife of President ROOSEVELT. In response to a request to Mrs. ROOSEVELT to send some article for sale at a festival held for the benefit of the Dallas Free Kindergarten, a handkerchief was forwarded but on its arrival at Dallas its quality was made the subject of criticism, and the managers of the kindergarten festival passed a resolution that it be returned to the donor as unacceptable.

This is a departure from the lines of cour tesy so extreme that we shall not attempt to characterize it fittingly. But the Dallas men in their sober moments will surely perceive the occasion for the abject apology that confronts them.

CANADA DOESN'T LIKE IT. Continued Dissatisfaction There With the Alaskan Boundary Treaty.

MONTREAL, Feb. 10 .- The Alaskan Bour dary Treaty is still the subject of a good deal of embittered discussion, but with at the same time, the intention to accept the sacrifice which every one agrees is the inevitable outcome of boundary bargaining between Great Britain and the United States.

The most jingo of the local newspapers ery soon after the signing of the treaty that it was not worth while for the sake of Dyea and Skagway to have Canada reduced to the condition of South Africa; a notable to the condition of South Africa; a notation admission in the circumstances. It seems, however, that the question of Dyea and Skagway, according to statements emanating from Ottawa, has not been reserved by the United States, but will be discussed by the other matters in dispute. This with the other matters in dispute. This result of the negotiations is credited to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and much satisfaction is expressed in some quarters in conse-

Among those who are not satisfied with Among those who are not satisfied with the situation as it stands, is Mr. Henri Bourassa, the well-known anti-imperialist member of the Dominion Parliament. He has communicated his views personally, and as he was secretary to the Anglo-Ameri can Commission in 1899 that considered the Alaskan boundary matter among othe

things, they are of particular interest.

The Canadian Government, it appears, seems to have been under the impression that the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty which was under consideration, would be taken advantage of by Great would be taken advantage of by Great Britain to obtain liberal concessions for Canada on the side of Alaska. The British Government, however, to

the British Government, nowever, to the great chagrin of the people at Ottawa did not do so; at least there is no record on the subject. When the joint commission suspended its deliberations the British Government had, so Mr. Bourassa says, two methods of arriving at a pacific solu-tion of the dispute, one was a diplomatic two methods of arriving a pacine solu-tion of the dispute; one was a diplomatic arrangement admitting of reciprocal con-cessions; the other, the strict legal inter-pretation of the treaties relating to Alaska. Canada thought the first would be found in Canada thought the first would be found in the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty; and preferred that solution. But Great Britain, according to Canadian opinion, capitulated without reserve and without honor in that question, and lost the last opportunity which it gave her to obtain a material advantage for Canada. In not availing itself of it, the British Govern-ment voluntarily renounced the settlement ment voluntarily renounced the settlement of the Alaskan boundary by diplomatic methods, and has now to submit it to legal Mr. Bourassa, in common with many

Mr. Bourassa, in common with many others, considers that Great Britain has given Canada away in this Alaskan matter, and sacrificed her rights. Judge Mills, at the time Minister of Justice at Ottawa, declared that the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty without obtaining something out of it for Canada was a denial of instead to the colony, but the Ottawa Parjustice to the colony, but the Ottawa Par-liament was so taken up with its imperialist schemes that it refused to give any con-sideration to the subject. The present treaty, Mr. Bourassa says, is the logical and inevitable outcome of Great Britain's and inevitable outcome of dreat britain a previous attitude on the question, and of her general policy toward the United States, more particularly since the outbreak of the South African war; and he ridicules the return principle of the British press which artless rejoicing of the British press which sees in it the elimination of the last cause of conflict between Great Britain and the

United States.

From the English point of view he does not blau: -: e policy of the British Government, but he hopes that Canadian imperialists will begin to take account of the ridicu-lous rôle of dupe, which they are playing

in the Empire.

It will, I think, be a little time yet before our Canadian imperialists, not all Canadian-born, find out that they have been dupes as Mr. Bourassa suggests. The late Lord Pauncefote declared on more than one oc-casion that "those dreadful Canadian Tories" gave him more worry in his work at Washington than all others combined; and learn that Lord Charles Beresford has announced that if he can find time during the coming autumn, he intends to take a run over here to "try and put some sense into the heads of the Tories of Canada." All I can say is that if he does, his work is out out for him. EXHIBITION BY ALFRED PAR-SONS AND FRANK D. MILLET.

At the American Art Galleries is being held an exhibition of water colors by Alfred Parsons and of oil paintings by Frank D

At least one trait of disposition is share by these two firm friends. Each has below the surface a strain of very tender sweethes and a frank, simple boyishness of nature qualities which are reflected in their work Nothing, for example, could be sweeter in sentiment, more fresh and gladsome in feeling, than these water colors by Mr. Parsons, which exhibit, also, so affectionate regard for the beauty of little things. They are indescribably dainty in technique and yet have an amplitude of composition, corresponding, indeed, to the wholesom out-of-door simplicity of his attitude toward nature and to the exceeding delicacy of his observation.

This artlessness of purpose detains him in some of the choicest spots of rural England, prompting him to paint occasionally an extended view of the country, but far more often some little fragment of loveliness And with what delightful intimacy! Moreover, his intimacy with nature is single-eyed and single-hearted; he does not carry into his companionship with nature any mood of his own, but yields himself entirely to the promptings of the scene before him. Accordingly, some who look in a picture for a personal expression of the artist's mood, may find these landscapes unpoetical just as many on this score will unfavorably ompare a Monet with a Cazin. Of course these landscapes do express their author's personality, the moodlessness, in fact, of his habitual mood toward nature, and by reason of this very quality of objectiveners will delight the many who can find for themselves the poetry in nature.

To the independent lover of nature and

of painting both these att tudes appeal he asks only that whichever be the painter's motive, he will pursue it loyally and effectively And there can be no question that in the direction of his choice, Mr. Parsons displays an extraordinary skill. To single out one special feature, he has an admirable power of adjusting mass and detail, of giving one the general impression of a ose-bush or bed of carnations, for example, and at the same time of quickening our interest in certain separate stems or plossoms. This is precisely the way in which in nature the near view of objects affects us. Whether our prior consciousness be of the mass or the detail, the mind rebounds almost simultaneously to the other. And when we come to examine the detail in these pictures, just as we might proceed to do in nature, we shall find that he character of the flower or leaf or stalk s expressed with indescribable truth and feeling. One may be disposed to think for the moment that the microscopic quality is the most delightful feature of these paintings, until one steps back and observes now admirably the general character also

of the scene is rendered. With very few exceptions all these studies are painted with a free use of body color so that their piquancy is often at the expense of atmospheric quality; the sun shines with persistent clearness, and the artist does not treat us to delicate nuances of one. But in a few examples, such as Trespassers" (22) and "The Grange, Broadway" (32), the method adopted is one of broader washes, and, especially in the case of the former, with such success that one could wish there were more pictures in

could wish there were more pictures in this style.

Mr. Millet exhibits twelve canvases.

The Card Players" has been seen before but will well repay further study, for it is one of the best of his pictures, uniting most happily his strongest qualities. In a whitewalled room, with flagged floor, two men in cavalier costume are seated astride the opposite ends of a bench, playing cards, while a buxom girl sits upon a table at their side watching the game and not stitle piqued at its diverting attention from herself. The sunlight streams in through a small window and the room is also lighted from a window at our backs, so that the whole scene is filled with fresh, clear light scene is filled with fresh, clear light whole scene is filled with fresh, clear light that animates the costumes and various objects. The men are admirably char-acterized, and the character also of every detail in the picture is well rendered. More-over, the whole has an excellent unity of

eeling. Under another name 'The Trave'led Man has also been exhibited before. He is writing at a desk, in the midst of a profusion of souvenirs from various ends Man has also been exhibited derive. He is writing at a desk, in the midst of a profusion of souvenirs from various ends of the earth which strew the floor and table, while near the latter stands a comely girl who has brought in a tray of tea things and is waiting to be noticed. I do not know whether the picture has been worked upon since its previous appearance, but cartainly on the present occasion it does not seem to have the bizarrerie that one remembers, and appears now as a very handsome tonal composition. It differs also from the earlier work in having passages of deep shadow, warm and penetrable, which assist amazingly the unity of the ensemble. It represents, indeed, very happly the influence of the sixteenth century Dutchmen; not only a skilful rendering of the multitude of detail, but a unifying of the parts into an exceedingly handsome composition of tore and lighting.

One may trace this purpose in a smaller

of the parts into an exceedingly handsome composition of tore and lighting.

One may trace this purpose in a smaller picture, a "Portrait of Mrs. Frederick Huth Jackson." The lady is scated near a round mahogany table, her scarlet dress trailing across the floor, and at her back is a Japanese screen, while to the left of the picture, among some other objects, is a lacquered cabinet. The various accessories, while very rich in color and ornamentation, are subdued to a low tone, so as to give prominence to the figure. I could wish that there were more suggestion of atmosphere around and behind the lady's head, the more so as the background in this respect is admirably managed. But as it is the head is a little lacking in distinction, which I find the only drawback to a complete enjoyment of the picture. It represents, however, a very charming variant upon the usual portrait, and one so thoroughly within the special scope of Mr. Millet's art, that I hope he will have many opportunities of practising it. Another picture to be mentioned in this connection, although it is not described as a portrait. opportunities of practising it. Another picture to be mentioned in this connection, although it is not described as a portrait, is "Old Melodies." It is again to be welcomed as a very agreeable study in tonality. "Preparing for Conquest" is one of the painter's clever character and costume subjects, while the picture of a girl in white frock sitting on a sunny windowsill beside a pot of blue forget-me-nots, presents one of the sweetest studies of girl-hood that Mr. Millet has painted. It has its little sentimentality; why not? But any tendency to over-sweetness is counteracted by the fresh purity of the color scheme and lighting, and by the simple, wholesome frankness of the whole composition. It is, once more, a study of tonality, this time in a high key and with the others marks, if I mistake not, a new phase of motive that will add greatly to the number of those who admire Mr. Millet's work. The exhibition will remain open, Sunday excepted, until Feb. 18.

Mr. Parsons's Water Colors From a Gardener's Point of View.

The gardener will find much to interest him, much to admire, and, more important by far, forceful suggestiveness of true flower gardening in many of Mr. Parsons's pictures now on exhibition at the American Art Galleries. They breathe a spirit of hopefulness for the future, showing that nature has not been entirely divorced by the art that seeks to mend it. There are so many who hold that a flower garden is a geometric theorem, a mere matter of design, and that the flowers are only parts of a color scheme; but gardens such as these are shunned by the artist, who finds nothing ing is what we see in Mr. Persons's pi

where the flowers tell their story in their own simple way. The carnations in "A Manor House Garden" in No. 1, "Seedling Carnations" and the "Border of Pinks at Broadway" show force, and effect of color and charm of arrangement, carrying one's

houghts back to summer days in the gar-

The stately hollyhook that finds no place in the average formal garden is a favorite in the average formal garden is a favorite subject with Mr. Parsons. It is always an inspiration to the flower painter when seen as here portrayed with appropriate setting and association. "Foxglowes at Gravetye Manor" suggests how to make living garden pictures with this flower, and the "Old Plants of Aloe" teach the same lesson, that the best flower gardening is exemplified by planting the flower adapted to the position. Moreover, this enables us to plant flowers in places where prevailing notions plant no flowers at all. Those who know their roses do not need toarefer to the catalogue for an introduction to "Viscountess Folkestone" and others; "China Roses at Broadway" recalls a very old favorite, and "A Wild Rose Bush" is suggestive. "A Garden at Treaserce" tells the time of year; early summer days with their profusion of peonies, irises, day fillies and spirmas harmoniously blended. "Lilacs and Irises" needs no introductive title and the camellia bush and Himalayan rhododendron in No. 34 proclaim themselves. "Japanese Iris in a Surrey Garden" shows the beauty of his fibral gem from the Orient, and it is a good flower for American gardens. Pansies, apple blossom and clematis are the floral theme in "A Garden House of the Sixteenth Century." "Hydrangeas at Menabilly," Cornwall, though alike in color and profusion of bloom, dwarf into comparative insignificance hydrangeas, as we have them at Newport. subject with Mr. Parsons. It is always alike in color and profusion of bloom, dwarf into comparative insignificance hydrangeas, as we have them at Newport and many other places in summer. "A Bed of Lilies" and "Autumn Lilies" call to mind the whole lily family, rich in variety and beauty. In "Trespassers" we see the wild hyacinths or bluebells at home and in thought recall days when we trespassed for the same. The "Fritillarias" in No. 3, "Sea Lavender" in No. 33 and "Ragwort on the Sand Dunes" are all familiar wild flowers, showing well how nature plants her gardens.

New States.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: This Statehood" business should be relegated to Witness the case of Nevada-35.000 voters-and two Senators with one Repredecrease in the next ten years, would she be decrease in the next ten years, would she be entitled to the same representation—say, vote in ten years, 30,000; in five years, 20,000; when will the State be left out of the game? The mines, and cattle, and means of living may be reduced gradually in the proposed States, until their condition equals Nevads. It is possible to have eight Senators, or even ten, representing less than Ohio's two, to say nothing of New York and Pennsylvania. NEW YORK, Feb. 10.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: two-cent postage stamp is, from an artistic standpoint, an abomination. In place of the dignified bust by Houdin, little orna mented but impressive by its dignity and mented but impressive by its dignity and simplicity, we are given a simpering head of our great first President which looks like a French petit mattre, tempé Louis XV. The designer did well to label it Washington, as otherwise no one would have recognized it. Altogether the work marks a distinct retrogression in philatelic art and the sooner it is discarded the better.

New YORE, Feb. 8.

Foreign Trade of Porto Rico. The foreign trade of Porto Rico for the six months ending Dec. 31, 1902, is shown by the following

Exports to foreign countries

Balance in favor of Porto Rico. By countries, the showing is: France 2,247 76,658 163,528 Nova Scotla..... 94,840 91,596 40,000 26,426 7.255 7,826 French Gulana.. 4.500 British West Indies 10,469 7,402 5,132 4,360 3,868 2,322 Dantah West Indies..... 1.876 England. Netherlands. Belglum. ruguay. 10,506

Spain still has a good customer in Porto Rico, the half year's trade being \$167,605 in Spain's favor. Cuba is Porto Rico's best foreign customer, the balance of trade being \$311.530 in Porto Rico's favor. The next is France, to the extent of \$21,983.

Portugal.....

As usual owing to her ocean marine preponder buyer. In this report her sales are about forty times her purchases. This emphasizes the urgent need of some practical form of Congressional aid to our occan shipping interests. Not only England, but also Italy and Austria, benefit largely, for the same reason. We can never secure our due share of trade with foreign markets till we have an ocean marine of our own worthy of being called a fleet In the same six months the exports of Porto Rico to the United States amounted to \$3,539,973. For the calendar year 1902, our trade with the Island

\$22,559,639 \$5,849,210

While an ideal health resort, Porto Rico, under American management, is evidently "not in bust ness for her health." Her total commerce for the Venr Was \$27.818.103. WALTER J. HALLARD. SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Feb. 10.

Labor Commissioner Wright's Labor Platform. From an Address to the Y. M. C. A. of Springfield. The Decalogue is as good a labor platform as any out of the religious thought. The old struggle was for existence; the new struggle is for a wider spir ual margin. The application of this religion is the true solution of the labor problem. The The whole question must be placed on an altruistic basis.

A Poem by Stonewall Jackson.

The Richmond Times is authority for the statement that this poem was written by Stonewall Jackson while he was serving with the army in the Mexican War:

The tattoo beats—the lights are gone,
The camp around in slumber lies;
The night with solemn pace moves on.
The shadows thicken o'er the skies;
But sleep my weary eyes hath flown
And sad, uneasy thoughts arise. I think of thee, o, dearest one.
Whose love my early life hath blestOf thee and him—our baby son—
Who slumbers on thy gentle breast.
God of the tender, frail and lone,
Oh, guard the tender sleeper's rest.

And hover gently, hover near
To her, whose watchful eye is wet—
To mother, wife—the doubly dear,
In whose young heart have freshly met
Two streams of love so deep and clear
And cheer her drooping spirits yet.

Whatever fate those forms may show,
Loved with a pacsion 21most wild—
By day—by night—in joy or woe—
By rears oppressed, or hopes beguties,
From every danger, every for,
O, God, protest my wife and child!

Now, while she kneels before Thy throns, O, teach her, ruler of the skies. That, while by Thy behest alone. Parth's mightlest powers fall or rice, No tear is wept to Thee unknown, No hair is loss, no sparrow dies!

That Thou can'st stay the ruthless hands
Of dark disease, and soothe its pain:
That only by Thy stern commands
The battle's loss, the soldier's stain—
That from the distant see or land
Thou bring st the weaderer home again

And when upon her pillow lone
Her tear-wet cheek is sadly prest.
May happier visions beam upon
The brightening current of her brea
No frowning look nor angry tone
Distort the Sabbatt of her rect.

WHY IS NEGRO SUFFRAGE A FAILURE?

What Abraham Lincoln Said About Political and Secial Equality.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: To a man of Southern birth and "prejudices," the editorial in your issue of the 8th presages a scientific solution of this portentous

Since nowhere in the world-not even in the "Abolition" States has the negro. though armed with the suffrage, so much s approached political and physical equality with the white man, is not a racial nferiority, morally and intellectually, the cause of this universal and irreparable degradation? So you seem to indicate; and you are sustained in the suggestion by him whose worth and wisdom the nation to-day pauses in its work to commemorate

I have no purpose to introduce political and ocial equality between the white and the black races. There is a physical difference between the two which, in my judgment, will probably forever forbid their living together upon a footing of net fect equality; and inasmuch as it becomes a necessity that there must be a difference, I, as well as Judge Douglas, am in favor of the race to which belong having the superiority. I have never said anything to the contrary; but I held, not - -- standng all this, there is no reason in the world why the negro is not entitled to all the natural rights enumeated in the Declaration of Independence—the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. -(Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln-Douglas Debates. p. 78: 2 Rhodes's "History of the United States," p.

This is the precise position of the South. To-day in the South the negro is protected in the enjoyment of every "natural right," which he has not forfeited by crime, and he will continue to be so protected until the madness of his pseudo friends precipitates a conflict which can end only in his destruction. I know of no agency in the country that

can do more to avert such a catastrophe than THE SUN'S own wise counsels. ROOPE A PRIOR

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.

THE TRAGEDY IN THE PACIFIC. South Sea Islands That Were Swept by the Tidal Wave Reported on Monday.

No part of the Pacific is more thickly sprinkled with atolls than the Paumotu Islands in the southeast corner of that island world. There are hundreds of these little islands, most of them in lagoons surrounded by coral reefs, which in ordinary conditions shield them from the storms and waves.

The Pacific islanders divide their Islands into High and Low islands. Thus another name for the Paumotu Islands, often seen on the maps, is the Low Islands.

The Low Islands are those of coral formation, rising, as a rule, not more than twenty or thirty feet above the level of the sea. The High Islands are of volcanic origin. sometimes rising to a height of 8,000 feet among their mountains and in the Hawaiian group to still greater elevation.

The French possessions in this southeast part of the island world are divided into the Low Islands on the east and the smaller group of High Islands on the west. Tahiti. whose summits rise to a height of 7,000 feet, is on the western edge of the area of the Low Islands, while to the east of it stretch away the small, but imposingly elevated High Islands of this French region. Papeete, the chief town of Tahiti, is the entre of administration for all these islands.

The Paumotu Islands extend over an area of some 400,000 square miles; in other words, they are dispersed over a space that is nearly half as large again as the State of Texas.

Their population is very small. It they had been thickly peopled like many of the High Islands the calamity would have involved far greater loss of life. As might be supposed, all industrial and commercial development is almost impo the sparse population is scattered over so vast a territory. There are a few excellent harbors among the islands, but the largest towns are mere villages.

These remote archipelagoes lie 3,500 miles from the nearest port of America. They cas never possess any natural resources b youd their palm groves and pearl fisheries. It is different with Tahiti and the High Islands to the west of it. When the Panama Canal is opened these islands will be stuated, as far as shipping interests are concerned, exactly midway between Central America and Australia. They will then take a foremost position in the Polynesian world. The orange, cotton, coffee, sugar cane

and other important products thrive. About 50,000 acres of land on the largest taland are available for plantations. soil is fertile, the population is quite large and these islands, therefore, are certain to become the centre of a brisk trade when the Panama Canal places them right in the pathway of steamships plying between Europe and Australia

Pitcairn Island, the romantic rock inhabited by the descendants of the Bounty mutineers, is right on the southern edge of the wind and wave-swept region of the Low Islands. No fears need be entertained however, that the islanders have suffered to a disastrous extent, though their growing crops may have been injured by the wind. Their little rock with an area of about a square mile rises high above the sea and is of volcanic origin.

A Card From Dr. Hale.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I never said anything like this, which THE SUN

Dr. Edward Everett Hale has the right and hab! apeech made by him before the boston and Mothers' Club Monday he said that "It was and Mothers Club Monday he said that "It was cruel that children should be brought up ' to cruel that children should be brought up ' to

No one who knows me would think I did. or venture to say I did. On the other hand any policeman in Boston knows that I regard them all as men pledged to "take away them all as men pledged to "take away the sins of the world"—which is the precisions of the world"—which is the precisions of them, I am proud to say, are my near friends. As to letter carriers, many of my dear friends are serving God and their country in that capacity. I have been glad when I could help the right man into that honorable service.

I have observed in sacred writings of great authority that the word "angel" is used to denote a person who carries a message well and when people speak of errand boys with disrespect I like to remind them that the errand boys are among the atgels of to-day.

Boston, Feb. 9. Edward E. Hale.

We like Dr. Hale, even when he is wrong, and

We like Dr. Hale, even when he is wrong, and we are mighty sorry to have misrepresented We have forgotten the name of the sinner from whom we took the report. His is

February-Abraham Lincoln -12th.

A king of men Whose crown was love. Whose throne was gentleness; A sad souled slave To country and to care, He set the shackled millions free; By all the measurements of man; A martyr at his poet, Triumphant earth Wears on its breast No higher deceration